Ascension Parish Library
Read • Learn • Create

Plant a seed, read

2026 Summer Reading Program

MAY 21–JULY 31

Vol. 26 Issue 5
May 2026

the library

win prizes for reading!

Get ready to dig in, grow your imagination, and harvest rewards all summer long! This year's summer reading theme, *Plant a Seed, Read*, is inspired by the farm-to-table movement and celebrates how things grow. Farms grow food that fuels our bodies, libraries grow ideas that feed our minds, and both connect us to family, culture, community, and the world around us. When you plant a seed or open a book, you nurture something amazing! All summer long, we will be cultivating fun with live performers, hands-on fairy garden creations, visits from real (and pretend) farm animals, and plenty of surprises still waiting to sprout. But that's just the beginning!

Ascension Parish Library's summer reading program is open to readers of all ages. Beginning Thursday, May 21, sign up online at myAPL.beanstack.org or use the Beanstack app and start earning rewards for reading or listening to books, audiobooks, and magazines. Track your progress on Beanstack or with a printed reading log available at any library location. Earn up to 24 chances to win one of our Grand Prize drawings at the end of the summer.

Read to Me Grand Prize—Large play tent with flags and star lights
Kids Grand Prize—Mini indoor greenhouse growing kit
Teen Grand Prize—Waterproof, floatable Bluetooth speaker
Adult Grand Prize—A cast-iron, enamel Dutch oven, a copy of the cookbook *Bayou* by Melissa Martin, and an assortment of local spices and pantry goods

The last day to log your summer reading is Friday, July 31. Prizes are provided by a donation from the Friends of the Ascension Public Library. Scan the QR code for full details, including Summer Reading Program events, reading requirements for each age category, and rewards. Turn to pages 12 and 13 for a list of all of our summer events!

School's out. Now what? It's time to get signed up for summer reading and enjoy some farm-inspired fun for the whole family! Cajun Cuties mobile petting zoo is helping kick off this year's summer reading program with some animal friends. Pet a pot-bellied pig, ducks, chickens, rabbits, goats, and a miniature horse. We'll also have beanbag toss, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, and more.

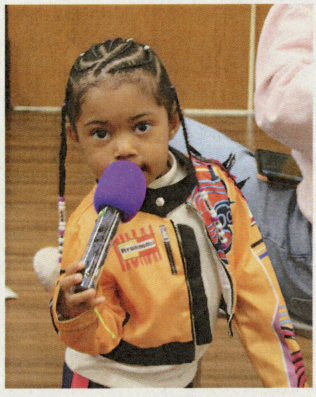
continued on page 2

Kick-Off Party

continued from cover...

Pick your day to pet and play: Thursday, May 21 at 10:00am at the Study Commons at the Wag Center; Tuesday, May 26 at 10:00am in St. Amant; Wednesday, May 27 at 2:00pm in Gonzales; Thursday, May 28 at 10:00am in Galvez; Friday, May 29 at 10:00am in Donaldsonville; or Saturday, May 30 at 10:00am in Dutchtown. Additionally, in St. Amant and Donaldsonville, you'll be able to create and learn in the Makerspaces and play video games. The Study Commons party coincides with the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office summer celebration, where fire department pumper trucks will keep everyone cool.

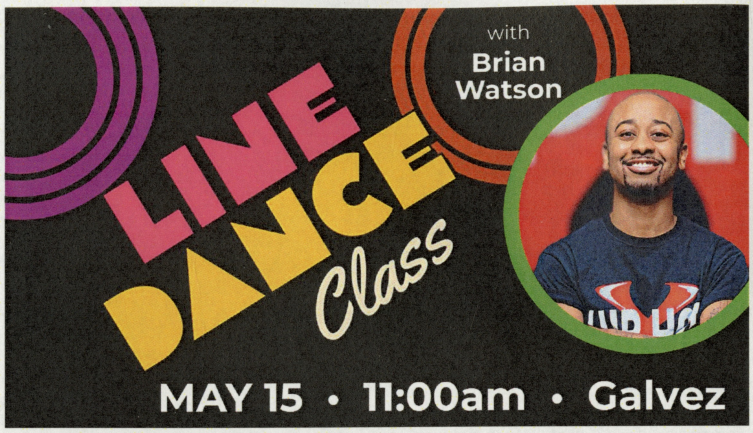
Don't miss celebrating the start of summer with us!



Pictured: K-pop Party in Galvez

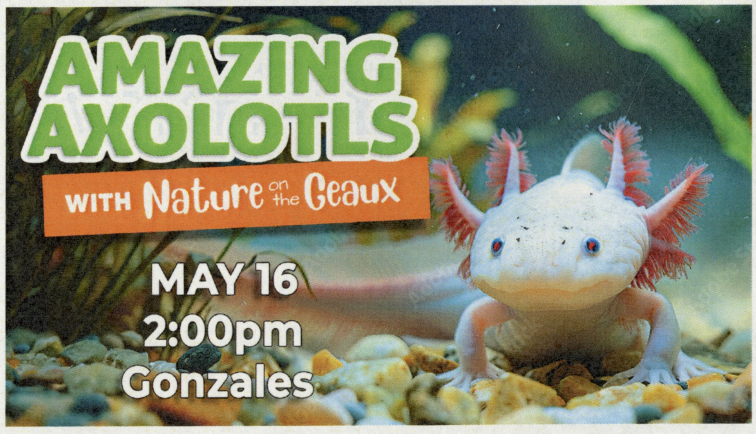
Notice: Photos and videos taken at APL may be used in promotional materials by the library and its partners. By attending a library event, you consent to media recordings and waive all rights and royalties.

for families



Let's dance! Bring the whole family to the library in Galvez on Friday, May 15 at 11:00am, and have a blast moving and grooving together. Get a workout while learning dances like Boots on the Ground, Cha Cha Slide, and Cupid Shuffle from local choreographer Brian L. Watson II. This high-energy line-dancing class makes learning dance steps fun for all ages.

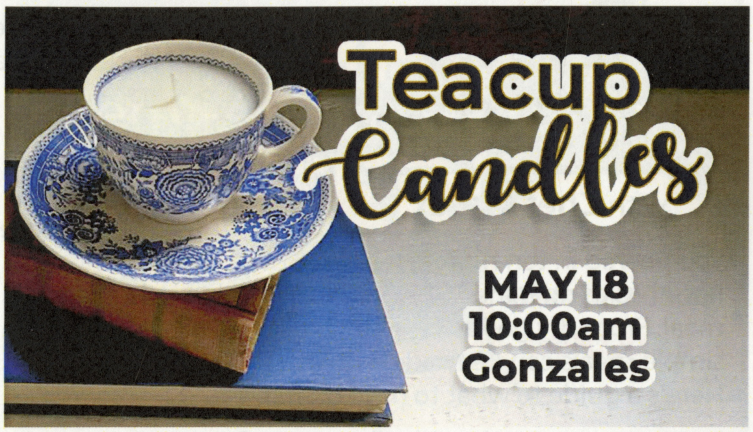
Brian L. Watson II is an actor, singer, entrepreneur, and co-founder and creative director of Baton Rouge's Hip Hop X Dance Studio. Registration required. Space is limited. Scan the QR code above to sign up. Be sure to wear something you can move freely in.



Meet some real axolotl ambassadors! Often called Mexico's "water dragons," axolotls are amazing amphibians, but these unique creatures are endangered in the wild, which makes learning about them more important than ever. On Saturday, May 16 at 2:00pm in Gonzales, environmental educator and animal expert Tanee Janusz from Nature on the Geaux will introduce us to real axolotls and share fun facts about axolotls, their wild counterparts, and the dangers they face. Thinking about having an axolotl as a pet? Learn what it takes to be a responsible axolotl keeper and how to care for these fascinating animals.

Summer in Louisiana means sunshine, warm breezes, and plenty of heat—so why not create something beautiful that can help you stay cool? While sipping tea, decorate your own wooden fan using sparkling decal rhinestones, transforming it into a one-of-a-kind piece that's both stylish and practical for hot summer days. We will also provide display stands for you to show off your creation at home when you're not using it. This hands-on craft begins at 10:00am on Saturday, May 23 in Galvez.

Registration required. Scan the QR code above to sign up online.



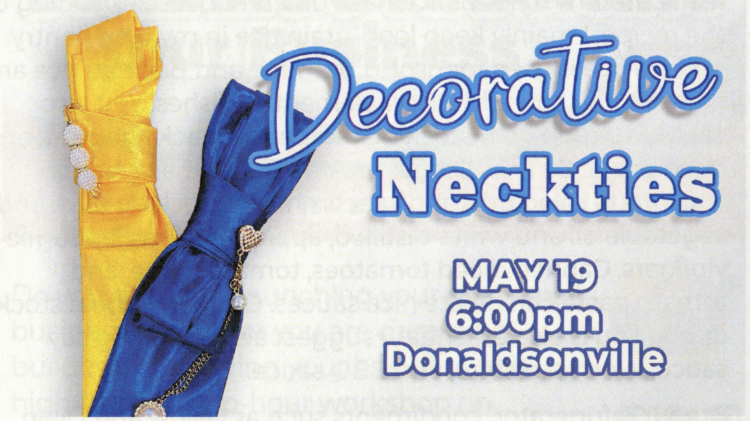
Light up your space with a flicker of warmth. Make a charming, eco-friendly thrifted teacup candle—a great way to use pre-loved cups instead of hiding them away in your cabinet. It can be a fun activity for yourself, and as an added bonus, scented teacup candles make a great gift, especially for that tea-loving person in your life. All supplies will be provided. Visit the library in Gonzales on Monday, May 18 at 10:00am and choose your teacup and essential oils to personalize your candle. Then, relax, sip some tea, and enjoy some candle crafting.

Registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up.

packet pickups

Plant Talk: Repotting & Propagation of Houseplants
MON, MAY 4, All locations

Plants can bring out the best in us. When we care for them, give them good soil, a good home, and some support, they thrive and fill our homes with life. The library will provide a plant propagation station, and then using the library's online learning tool Creativebug, tune in to Tender Gardener, who's back with more Plant Talk to teach you all the things you need to know about repotting and propagating common houseplants. Stop by any Ascension Parish Library location beginning Monday, May 4 to pick up a Plant Talk packet. Each packet contains a small terracotta pot and a potting soil pod to get you started on your planting journey. Packets available while supplies last.



Give new life to old ties. Transform sad, traditional neckties into stylish decorative pieces using ribbons, fabric accents, charms, and sparkling embellishments. Use creativity, upcycling, and self-expression to make a one-of-a-kind keepsake or gift on Tuesday, May 19 at 6:00pm in Donaldsonville. The library will provide all of the necessary materials, but you are welcome to bring ties from home.

Registration required. Scan the QR code to reserve your spot.

@ Share your photos and comments with us on Facebook or Instagram using @myAPLibrary.

In the KITCHEN with Chef Meaux

Have you ever looked in the cabinet and wondered what you were going to fix for dinner? Or opened the refrigerator, thinking that there would be something different from the last time you peered in ten minutes before? Every kitchen should have basics on hand to be able to assemble a successful meal. From dry goods to refrigerated and frozen items, simple meals can be made with just a few standard things. Here's a guide to what to have on hand.

In your pantry, begin with all-purpose flour. It serves as the start to simple cakes, biscuits, cookies, or pancakes. Your pantry should also include baking soda, baking powder, instant yeast, cream of tartar, unsweetened cocoa powder, evaporated milk, chocolate chips, and vanilla. Corn meal, breadcrumbs, and cornstarch are also essential, along with some sort of sweetness, usually granulated and confectioner's sugar (also called powdered sugar). Brown sugar and honey are two other excellent sweeteners for your pantry. Spices and herbs are a must. Kosher and table salts are usually not interchangeable in recipes due to differing densities. Peppercorn in a grinder is a good replacement for traditional pre-ground powder. I also recommend onion powder, garlic powder, Italian blend, oregano, sage, thyme, rosemary, and parsley. To spice up your life, you can also include cayenne pepper, cumin, paprika, coriander, and lemon pepper seasoning, which is great on chicken or fish. Different styles of rice have different uses depending on the recipe. I mainly keep long-grain rice in my own pantry. Arborio rice is used for risotto. Jasmine and Basmati rice are fragrant and can add a new element to dishes. You also can't go wrong with stocking red beans, black eye peas, and dried pasta. Oil and vinegar are needed to make simple vinaigrette salad dressing. I recommend stocking olive and vegetable oil and white distilled, apple cider, and balsamic vinegars. Canned diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, and tomato paste can create nice sauces. Chicken or beef stock or bouillon is also essential. I suggest also including soy sauce, Worcestershire, and BBQ sauce.

In your refrigerator, condiments such as yellow and Dijon mustard are good for making homemade salad dressing. Mayonnaise is a good base, and butter and margarine each have their own purpose. You should always have eggs on hand, which are very versatile and can be eaten at any time of the day. In your freezer, premade puff pastry, which comes in sheets, can be used for sweet or savory dishes. And if you don't use fresh vegetables, frozen vegetables are a good choice, having fewer preservatives and sodium than canned goods.

Learning one bite at a time,

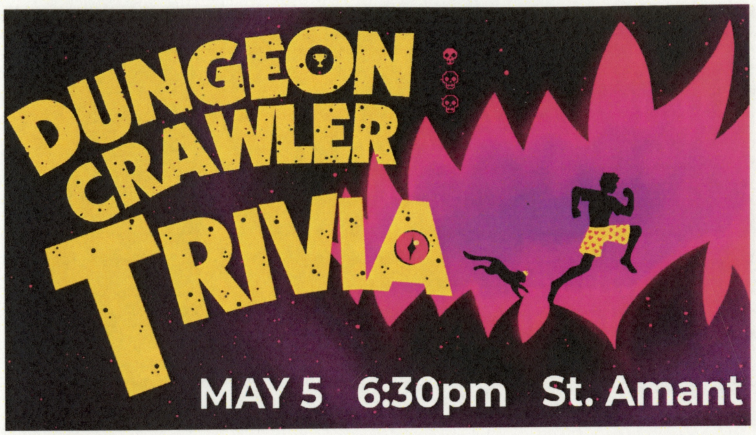
Chef Meaux

Celebrate spring with a hands-on cupcake decorating experience. Chef Meaux will demonstrate how to make a simple and flavorful buttercream frosting. Then using piping and color-mixing techniques, get creative by turning cupcakes into a stunning bouquet of edible flowers. All needed ingredients will be provided—just bring your imagination and your sweet tooth to the library in St. Amant on Saturday, May 9 beginning at 9:00am. This session will last approximately 2 hours. Online registration is required, and space is limited.

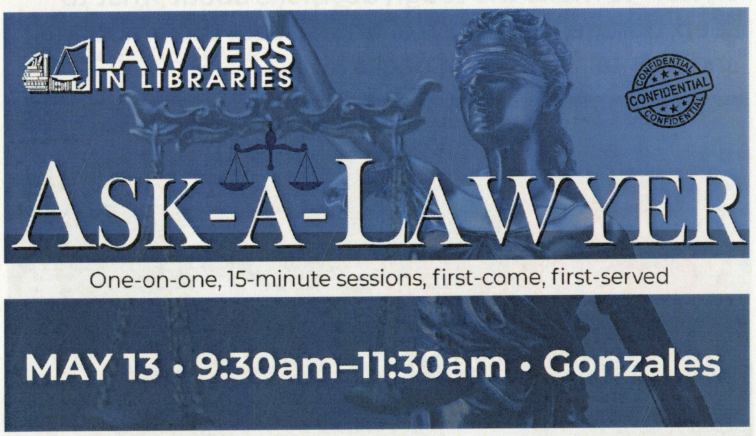
Sign up for this session starts April 27.

Discover how easy it is to recreate your favorite Chinese takeout dishes from scratch. In this part hands-on, part demonstration class, Chef Meaux will guide you through creating delicious takeout classics. You will leave with fully prepared Mongolian chicken, fried rice, and fortune cookies, plus a set of chopsticks to eat them with. During this class, learn how to roll egg rolls, which you will take home to fry later for a crispy, satisfying snack. Come cook, learn, and have fun *In the Kitchen* in St. Amant on Thursday, May 21 beginning at 9:00am. This session will last approximately 3 hours. Online registration is required, and space is limited.

Sign up for this session starts May 7.



Think you have what it takes to survive the crawl? Enter the dungeon. . . if you dare! Get ready for a night of *Dungeon Crawler Carl*–themed trivia packed with monsters, mayhem, and mind-bending questions from Earth history to gaming lore. Sip on Shirley Temples in honor of Princess Donut, and enjoy a playlist perfect for setting traps. Glory, bragging rights, and perhaps survival itself will be on the line on Tuesday, May 5 at 6:30pm in St. Amant. Costumes are highly encouraged. Prizes will be awarded to our best-dressed crawler and the team with the most Dungeon Crawler knowledge.



Have legal questions? Receive answers to your civil legal inquiries and get connected to additional resources at no cost during 15-minute individual consultations at Ascension Parish Library. Private, one-on-one assistance from a volunteer attorney is available on a first-come, first-served basis from 9:30am to 11:30am on Wednesday, May 13 in Gonzales. Advice will be offered for non-criminal matters only.

Ask-a-Lawyer individual consultations are provided by the Pro Bono Project of the Baton Rouge Bar Association.

Explore job, career, and educational opportunities with schools and employers from Ascension Parish and our surrounding communities at our semi-annual career and resource fair on Tuesday, May 5 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Job seekers will be able to meet with representatives from these organizations to discuss available positions and application processes. Some may be looking for immediate hires, so you might be able to interview on the spot! Professional attire and bringing copies of your resume are recommended.

Do you dream of launching your own small business? Whether you are dreaming, building, or growing your business, this high-impact, two-hour workshop on Wednesday, May 20 at 10:00am in Galvez is designed to equip small business owners with the tools, connections, and inspiration to make their next big step. Ada Womack-Bell, director of the Louisiana Small Business Development Center at Southern University and A&M College-Baton Rouge, will cover key topics, such as financing, marketing, and more.

Registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up online.

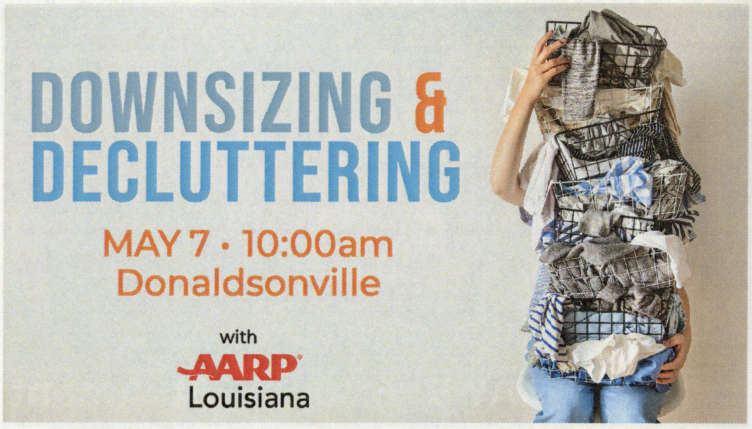
MAKERSPACES
DONALDSONVILLE & ST. AMANT

TRAINING CLASSES

AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Bring your ideas to life in the library's makerspaces! These collaborative, hands-on spaces allow library cardholders to innovate and learn with cutting-edge tools. People can connect and create by developing skills that can lead to a new hobby or career path. To access the makerspace equipment, schedule a training class with our tech team in Donaldsonville or St. Amant. Training classes provide hands-on guidance and ensure that you will feel comfortable using the tools. A valid library card and training completion badge for the equipment are required. Bringing your own supplies is encouraged, or you may choose from the library's limited selection. Those ages 12–14 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Lab hours, training guides, and supply costs can be found on our Makerspaces' website. Scan the QR code to find out more.

Improve your computer skills with 45-minute, one-on-one help sessions tailored to meet your needs at the library in Gonzales on Friday, May 8 from 2:00pm to 4:45pm; Wednesday, May 13 from 5:00pm to 7:45pm; or Thursday, May 21 from 2:00pm to 4:45pm. Assistance is available by appointment only for beginner computer skills, Microsoft Office, email, social media, or help using an electronic device for library digital resources. Registration required. Call 225-647-3955 to make an appointment and let us know how we can assist you.



WISE & WELL @APL

Should it stay, or should it go? It's just stuff, and holding on to too much can prevent you from making life changes, like relocating or getting health care in your home. But figuring out what to keep and what to donate can be overwhelming. Learn how to simplify your life through effective downsizing and decluttering on Thursday, May 7 at 10:00am in Donaldsonville. Whether you are preparing for a move, looking to create a more organized living space, or simply seeking ways to reduce clutter in your life, this workshop will guide you through the process step by step. A representative from AARP Louisiana will advise on how to make the tough decisions about what to keep, donate, or dispose of and discuss the emotional and mental benefits of decluttering.

WISE & WELL @APL

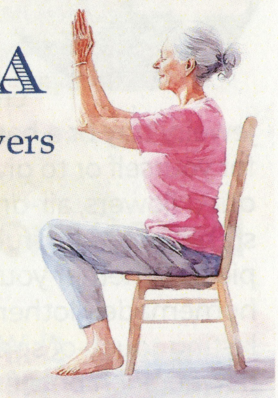
Whether you're new to smartphones or need a refresher, this hands-on workshop for iPhone and Android users will help you feel more confident using your device. On Thursday, May 14 at 11:00am in Gonzales, representatives from AARP Louisiana will cover topics ranging from accessing important controls and settings to securing your phone. Highlights will include features such as touchscreen use, accessibility options, finding and adjusting settings, voice assistants, and more. Don't forget to bring your device with you!

When cancer touches your life, know that you are not alone. Talking about living with or recovering from cancer can lead to difficult conversations. Connect with others affected by a cancer diagnosis at the library in Gonzales on Wednesday, May 13 at 11:30am. Create an open dialogue in a supportive atmosphere and explore topics about your diagnosis or that of someone you know. This group, provided by Our Lady of the Lake Cancer Services, is open to everyone whose life has been impacted by a cancer diagnosis, whether presently going through treatment or recovered.

Lunch will be provided. Registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up.

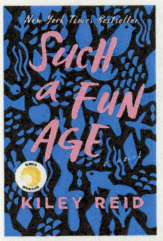
MINDFUL CHAIR YOGA for Cancer Survivors & Caregivers

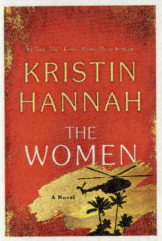
Thursdays
MAY 7 thru MAY 28
11:30am • Gonzales

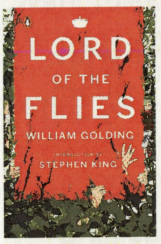


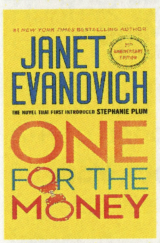
Has a cancer diagnosis affected you? Improve your well-being through mindful chair yoga. Ascension Parish Library, in partnership with Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center, offers one-hour sessions for cancer survivors and caregivers, led by certified yoga instructor Jada Kerek, on Thursdays at 11:30am in Gonzales.

Registration required. Bringing your own yoga mat is welcomed. Scan the QR code to sign up for this month's classes.









ASCENSION PARISH LIBRARY
BOOK CLUB

MAY 7

1:30pm Donaldsonville
Such a Fun Age by Kiley Reid

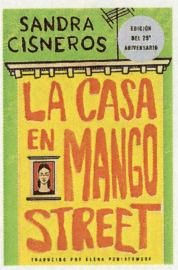
6:30pm Gonzales
The Women by Kristin Hannah

6:30pm Dutchtown
The Lord of the Flies by William Golding

6:30pm Galvez
One for the Money by Janet Evanovich

6:30pm St. Amant
The Ministry of Time by Kaliane Bradley

Broaden your literary horizons. Hear new perspectives, share your thoughts, and connect with fellow readers. APL Book Clubs meet on the first Thursday of the month at their respective locations from February through December. Registration required. Are you ready to join? If so, call your local library location.



Club de Lectura en Español

Acompáñanos en la biblioteca de Gonzales el jueves 28 de mayo a las 6:30pm para nuestro club de lectura en español. Este mes estaremos comentando *La casa en Mango Street* de Sandra Cisneros. Las conversaciones se llevarán a cabo en español. Las reuniones del Club de Lectura en Español se realizan el último jueves de cada mes y están diseñadas para conectar a lectores que disfrutan de la literatura, la cultura y la conversación reflexiva. Se requiere inscripción. Para registrarte, llama a Paloma al 225-647-3955.

author talks

Enjoy virtual talks from authors from around the world. Livestream or watch recordings anytime, anywhere on your favorite device. Scan the QR code for access to all of our available Author Talks.

COOKING
JoyFull: Daily Rituals to Eat Freely & Live Radiantly with Radhi Devlukia-Shetty TUE, MAY 5, 1:00pm, Virtual

FICTION
Courage, Turmoil, & the Transformative Power of Love with Marjan Kamali THU, MAY 7, 6:00pm, Virtual

VARIETY & LIFESTYLE
How to Robot-Proof Your Kids (and Yourself) with Dr. Vivienne Ming TUE, MAY 12, 1:00pm, Virtual

NONFICTION
Reshape Your Beliefs & Unlock Your True Potential with Nir Eyal TUE, MAY 19, 1:00pm, Virtual

. . . Coming next month . . .

NONFICTION
Your Ticket to the Best State Fair Crafts with Smithsonian Curator Mary Savig WED, JUN 3, 1:00pm, Virtual

FICTION
Apocalyptic Mayhem, Lava-Spitting Llamas, and One Very Sassy Cat: Surviving the Universe's Most Twisted RPG with Matt Dinniman THU, JUN 11, 6:00pm, Virtual

VARIETY & LIFESTYLE
Nurturing Future Generations: Stories from the Heart of Grandfatherhood with Ted Page THU, JUN 18, 1:00pm, Virtual

COOKING
Simple, Sustainable, and Powerfully Delicious Meals with Sana Javeri Kadri and Asha Loupy TUE, JUN 23, 1:00pm, Virtual

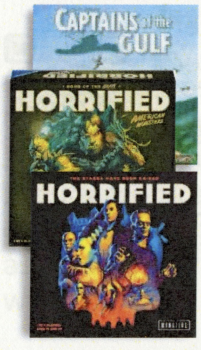
for teens

Add a personal touch to your backpack, tote, or water bottle with a custom accessory that fits your style. Express yourself by making a DIY bag charm at the library in Donaldsonville on Tuesday, May 5 at 4:00pm. The library will provide all of the supplies necessary—charms, beads, chains, clips, and tools—then show you how to use jewelry pliers to attach charms and a lobster clasp. With a variety of colors and themes to choose from, you can keep it simple or make a statement.

packet pickups

Flower Pinch Pot
FRI, MAY 1, All locations except Study Commons

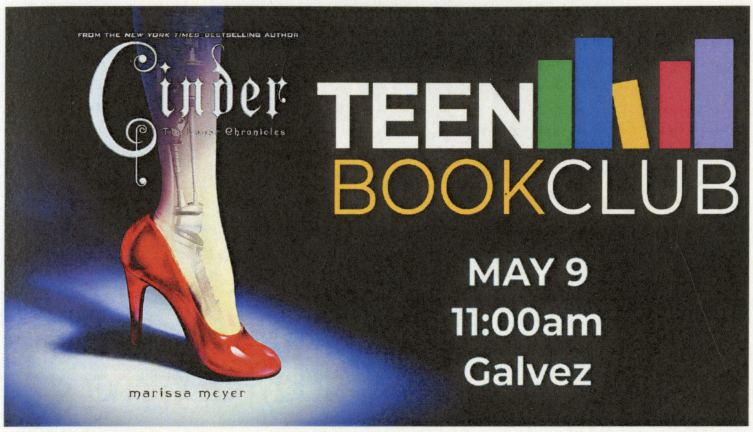
Enjoy spring and express yourself creatively by designing a small jewelry tray or a hanging ornament—perfect to keep for yourself or to give as a gift. The library will provide dried flowers, air-dry clay, glue, a paintbrush, and step-by-step instructions to help you create your own piece. Whether you are looking for a thoughtful homemade Mother's Day gift or just want to display a lasting touch of spring, these easy-to-make, pressed flower pinch pots are a charming project that teens will enjoy. Pick up a pinch pot packet from any library location beginning Friday, May 1, while supplies last.



New In Our Library Of Things

- Horrified: Universal Studio Monsters
- Horrified: American Monsters
- Captains of the Gulf

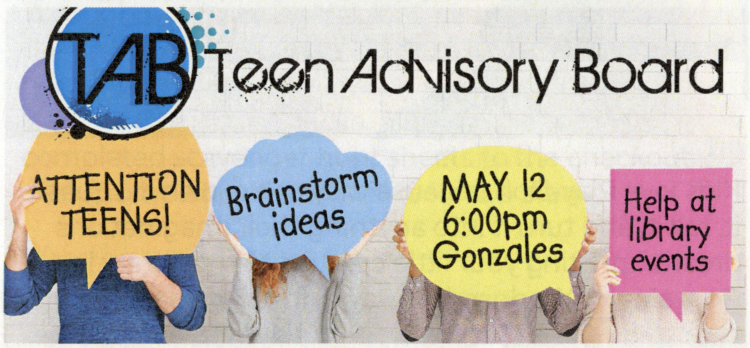
Find these and more @



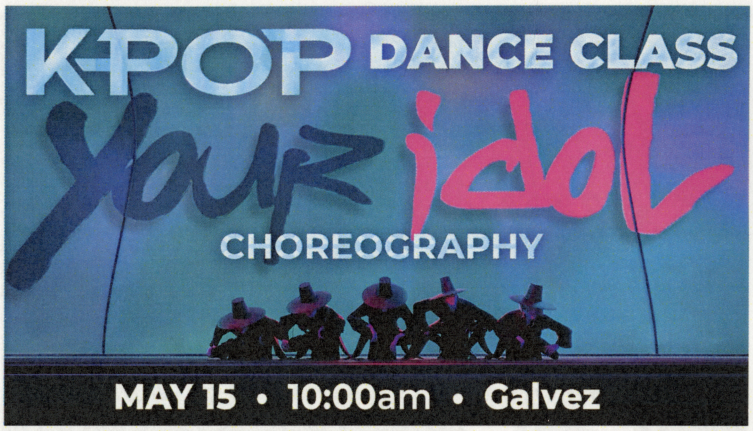
Step into new worlds, meet unforgettable characters, and share your hot takes—whether you loved the book or had other opinions. Teen Book Club is held on the second Saturday of every month at 11:00am in Galvez. May's book pick is *Cinder* by Marissa Meyer—a Cinderella retelling about a cyborg mechanic in New Beijing who is forced to confront her past to save Earth from an evil queen.

This event is for teens ages 12–18. Snacks will be provided. Books are reserved for pickup at our Galvez location. Although our book picks are specifically chosen for teens, parents are encouraged to review the suitability for their reader. Registration required. Call 225-622-3339 to sign up.

"Imagine finding a cure, but it would cost you everything. It would completely ruin your life. What would you do?"
—Marissa Meyer, *Cinder*

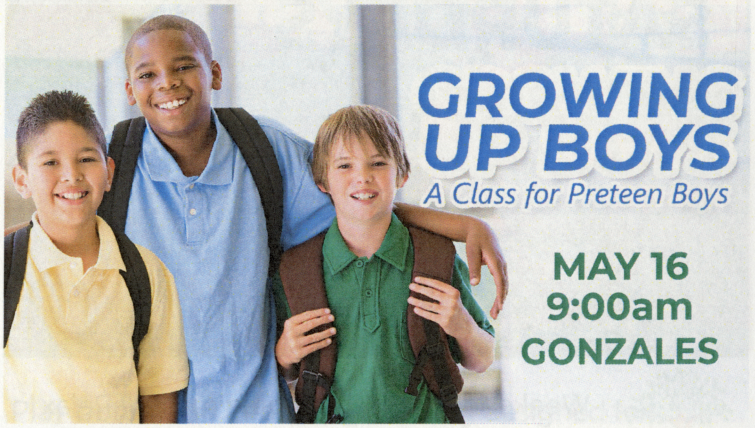


Attend monthly meetings, meet other teens, and help at library events. All teens ages 13–18 with a valid APL library card are invited to join. TAB meets the second Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm in Gonzales. TAB members are asked to volunteer for two hours or help with one library event each month, as their schedule allows. To get involved, fill out a TAB application at any of our library locations.



Want to look like a legit K-pop star? It's time to pop, lock, and K-pop at the library in Galvez on Friday, May 15 at 10:00am. K-pop is a high-energy, synchronized dance style that combines hip-hop, jazz, contemporary, and traditional Korean moves. Get ready to learn a snippet of the "Your Idol" choreography from *K-Pop Demon Hunters*, led by local choreographer, actor, and singer Brian L. Watson II. Brian is co-founder, co-owner, and creative director of the Hip Hop X Dance Studio.

K-Pop dance class is designed for tweens and teens ages 9–18. Registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up. Be sure to wear something you can move freely in.



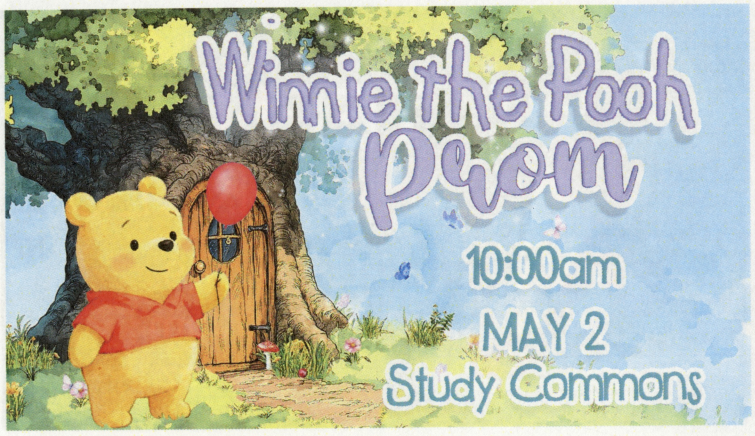
Help your son understand the physical and emotional changes he will experience as he goes through puberty. Ascension Parish Library, in partnership with Our Lady of the Lake St. Elizabeth, will host this candid and comforting conversation about a natural phase of growing up on Saturday, May 16 at 9:00am in Gonzales. This class is tailored for boys ages 9–11 and their parents or guardians. Registration required. To sign up for this event, call Our Lady of the Lake St. Elizabeth at 225-743-2906.

WISE & WELL @APL

Our Lady of the Lake Physician Group

Roll up your sleeves and dive into color on Saturday, May 2 at 10:00am at the library in Galvez. Guided by Bekah Duplechin, owner of Art Academy in Prairieville, use oil pastels to blend, layer, and build rich colors as you create your own eye-catching Luna moth. Once your moth is complete, cut it out and attach it to a black background splatter-painted to look like a night sky. This is your chance to experiment, get creative, and head home with a piece you will be proud to display.

Registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up.



Dress your little one in their spring best and join us for a joy-filled celebration in the Hundred Acre Woods. You're invited to a Winnie the Pooh prom on Saturday, May 2 at 10:00am at the Study Commons at the Wag Center in Donaldsonville. This sweet spring formal is designed for babies and toddlers to dance, play, and celebrate. Twirl along to music, play with toys, enjoy our kiddie pool ball pit, and create your own handprint craft. Don't forget to pose for a pic with our special backdrop. Light refreshments will be provided to make the morning even more special.

Weekends don't have to be rushed! Relax and reset with yoga designed specifically for tweens. Led by RYT-200 registered yoga teacher Jada Kerek, the last class of this series will be held at the library in Dutchtown on Saturday, May 9. The session begins at 10:00am and will include simple poses, easy stretches, and moments to pause and take a breath. Soft mat flooring will be provided, along with a few yoga mats; however, you are also welcome to bring your own.

Registration required. Scan the QR code to sign up.

Kids love Play-Doh because they can squish it, squash it, roll it, and turn it into anything their imaginations dream up. Bring your little creators to the library in Gonzales on Wednesday, May 13 for some hands-on fun starting at 10:00am. Drop in, play, and enjoy some fun! Preschoolers ages 3–5 can explore, sculpt, and imagine using Play-Doh, mats, rollers, cutters, and a variety of fun tools provided by the library. Let your little one make their own masterpiece mess here—and we'll handle the cleanup! To keep the creativity going, each child will get a 3-oz container of Play-Doh to take home.

We're having a block party! Bring your budding builder to the library in Galvez on Monday, May 11 at 10:00am for a morning of creative construction and curious connections. From chunky pieces perfect for little hands to shape+shifting building blocks and blueprint challenges, preschoolers ages 3–5 will have a playful time boosting fine motor skills, problem-solving, and imagination. Caregivers can join in the fun as little makers mix, match, tap, and stack their way through a world of colorful construction. Hard hats are optional—big ideas are encouraged!

Power up and play at the library in St. Amant on Saturday, May 16 beginning at 10:00am. Kids ages 6–8 and their families are invited to jump into our drop-in adventure inspired by the world of Mario. Hunt for Yoshi's hidden eggs, test your agility in Bowser Jr.'s obstacle course, and take aim at Fireball Toss. Try out Mario Kart pull-back racer toys, then make a Perler bead craft. At 11:00am, gather for Rosalina's storytime, followed by a chance to snap a photo with the cosmic princess. This open-house-style event lets you explore at your own pace—come when you can and stay as long as you like. You can even come in costume if you'd like!

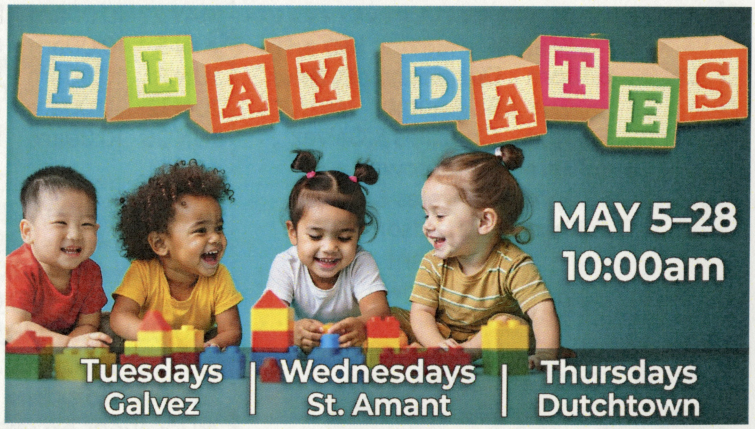
scavenger hunt

May Flowers

FRI, MAY 1 – SAT, MAY 30, All locations except Study Commons

Let's celebrate the beauty found in nature. Throughout the month of May, search throughout the children's area of the library for hidden pictures of ten different fantastic flowers, such as Louisiana's state flower, the magnolia. Pick up and turn in completed scavenger hunt sheets to the checkout desk. Completed sheets will receive a stamp.

Pictured: Chicka Chicka Boom Boom in Dutchtown



Play Dates is an informal gathering designed for newborns through two-year-olds and their caregivers. Ascension Parish Library provides a welcoming and safe space with toys and books where babies and toddlers can get to know each other and grow and learn through play. It's a time for babies, toddlers, and their caregivers to socialize with others. Socialization and interaction with new things and environments are essential for the development of young children. Play Dates will meet from May 5 to May 28 at 10:00am on Tuesdays in Galvez, Wednesdays in St. Amant, and Thursdays in Dutchtown. Each session lasts approximately 30 minutes.

families

Kick-Off Party
MAY 21 10:00am Study Commons
MAY 26 10:00am St. Amant
MAY 27 2:00pm Gonzales
MAY 28 10:00am Galvez
MAY 29 10:00am Donaldsonville
MAY 30 10:00am Dutchtown

Kindness Rocks
All locations except Study Commons
MAY 23–JUL 31

Fabulous Fruits Scavenger Hunt
All locations except Study Commons
JUN 1–JUN 30

Tutti Frutti Tally Game
JUN 1–JUL 31 Study Commons

Ballet Soiree with Baton Rouge Youth Ballet
JUN 2 9:30am Galvez
JUN 2 11:30am Gonzales
JUN 2 1:30pm St. Amant

Mama SaBa: Southern & African Folktales
JUN 9 10:00am Study Commons
JUN 9 2:00pm Dutchtown
JUN 26 10:00am Gonzales
JUN 26 2:00pm Galvez

Pajama Storytime
JUN 9 6:30pm Donaldsonville & St. Amant
JUN 11 6:30pm Gonzales & Galvez
JUN 18 6:30pm Dutchtown
JUL 9 6:30pm Gonzales & Galvez
JUL 14 6:30pm Donaldsonville & St. Amant
JUL 16 6:30pm Dutchtown

Safari Station
JUN 18 10:00am Galvez
JUN 18 2:00pm Donaldsonville
JUL 9 10:00am Gonzales
JUL 9 2:00pm Dutchtown

Delicious Veggies Scavenger Hunt
All locations except Study Commons
JUL 1–JUL 31

Family Movie: *1776*
JUL 1 4:00pm Gonzales

Lady Chops
JUL 6 10:00am Dutchtown
JUL 6 2:00pm Galvez
JUL 7 10:00am Study Commons
JUL 7 2:00pm St. Amant

Family Movie: *Wall·E*
JUL 10 2:00pm Galvez
JUL 17 2:00pm Dutchtown

Norwegian Polar Bear Expedition with The Ocean Adventure
JUL 13 10:00am Gonzales
JUL 13 2:00pm St. Amant
JUL 14 10:00am Galvez
JUL 14 2:00pm Donaldsonville

Geebo the Magician
JUL 27 10:00am Gonzales
JUL 27 2:00pm Galvez
JUL 28 10:00am St. Amant
JUL 28 2:00pm Donaldsonville

kids

babies/toddlers (ages 0–2)

Down on the Farm Sensory Play
MAY 27 10:00am Dutchtown
JUN 5 10:00am Gonzales
JUN 8 10:00am Galvez
JUN 12 10:00am St. Amant
JUN 25 10:00am Donaldsonville

Babytime
TUE, JUN 2–30 10:00am Gonzales
THU, JUN 4–25 10:00am Dutchtown
TUE, JUL 7–21 10:00am Gonzales
THU, JUL 2–23 10:00am Dutchtown

Toddler Storytime
All locations except Study Commons
WED, JUN 3–24 10:00am
WED, JUL 1–22 10:00am

preschoolers (ages 3–5)

Summer Fruit Sponge Art
MAY 29 10:00am Gonzales
JUN 4 10:00am Donaldsonville
JUN 15 10:00am Dutchtown
JUN 23 10:00am Galvez
JUN 30 10:00am St. Amant

preschoolers continued

Flower Power
JUN 1 10:00am St. Amant
JUN 8 10:00am Donaldsonville

Preschool Storytime
Gonzales, Dutchtown, & Galvez
WED, JUN 3–24 11:00am
WED, JUL 1–22 11:00am

Fruit & Veg Torn Paper Art Packet Pickup
Available while supplies last
JUL 1 All Locations

Barnyard Bash
JUL 6 10:00am Gonzales
JUL 14 10:00am St. Amant
JUL 20 10:00am Dutchtown
JUL 27 10:00am Study Commons

elementary (ages 6–8)

Hairy Head Packet Pickup
Available while supplies last
JUN 1 All Locations

The TMM Project: Seeds, Fossils, & Positive Beats
JUN 15 10:00am Gonzales
JUN 15 2:00pm Galvez
JUN 16 10:00am Study Commons
JUN 16 2:00pm Dutchtown

Learn About Worms! with Worm Lady Recycles
JUN 25 10:00am St. Amant
JUN 25 2:00pm Gonzales

Dino Academy: A Dinosaur Discovery Show with Bright Star Theatre
JUN 29 10:00am Gonzales
JUN 29 2:00pm St. Amant
JUN 30 10:00am Study Commons
JUN 30 2:00pm Dutchtown

Happy Birthday, America
JUL 3 10:00am Galvez

Backyard Adventures with Karen Wallsten
JUL 16 10:00am Donaldsonville
JUL 16 2:00pm Gonzales
JUL 21 10:00am Dutchtown
JUL 21 2:00pm Galvez

tweens

Mini Fantasy Gardens
JUN 8 2:00pm Dutchtown
JUN 15 2:00pm St. Amant
JUN 29 2:00pm Donaldsonville

Tween Movie: *Moana*
JUN 12 2:00pm Gonzales
JUN 22 2:00pm Dutchtown

Slice of Summer Coaster Set
JUN 29 3:00pm Dutchtown
JUL 6 3:00pm St. Amant
JUL 10 3:00pm Gonzales
JUL 20 3:00pm Donaldsonville

teens

Tiny Worlds: Fairy Garden Orbs
JUN 1 2:00pm Gonzales
JUN 12 2:00pm Galvez

Teen Advisory Board
JUN 9 6:00pm Gonzales
JUL 14 6:00pm Gonzales

Teen Book Club
JUN 13 11:00am Galvez
JUL 11 11:00am Galvez

Stardew Valley Perler Beading
JUL 7 5:30pm Dutchtown
JUL 18 2:00pm Gonzales
JUL 23 5:30pm Galvez

adults

Piece by Piece: Mosaic Magic Garden Tiles
MAY 23 10:00am Dutchtown

Knotted Pantry Bag Packet Pickup
Available while supplies last
JUN 1 All Locations

Recorder Basics with Erin Perdue
JUN 2 5:30pm Gonzales

Summer Film Series: Universal Classic Monsters with Donald Beale
Dracula (1931, 75m)
JUN 4 6:00pm Gonzales
The Invisible Man (1933, 71m)
JUN 11 6:00pm Gonzales
Frankenstein (1931, 71m)
JUN 18 6:00pm Gonzales
The Bride of Frankenstein (1935, 75m)
JUN 25 6:00pm Gonzales

The History of Sugarcane with Dr. Kenneth Gravois
JUN 8 10:00am Gonzales

Clay Trinket Bowls with Art Academy
JUN 9 6:00pm Galvez
JUL 15 6:00pm Gonzales

Grow & Create: Seed Bomb & Painted Pots
JUN 11 6:00pm Donaldsonville

Bingo for Adults
JUN 12 2:00pm Dutchtown
JUN 18 2:00pm St. Amant
JUN 22 2:00pm Donaldsonville
JUL 9 3:00pm Study Commons
JUL 13 6:00pm Gonzales
JUL 25 10:00am Galvez

Sewing Basics with Nicole Stallings
JUN 15 10:00am Donaldsonville
JUN 22 10:00am St. Amant

Printmaking with Art Academy
JUN 16 6:00pm Dutchtown
JUN 23 6:00pm Donaldsonville
JUL 21 6:00pm St. Amant

Books & Brushes: St. Amant Redbuds
JUN 25 6:00pm St. Amant

Tiny Homes: Fairy Edition
JUN 26 2:00pm Dutchtown

Air Plant Hangers
JUN 29 10:00am Galvez

Garden Journaling Packet Pickup
Available while supplies last
JUL 6 All Locations

Craft & Plant: DIY Twine Planter with Mini Succulents
JUL 9 6:00pm St. Amant

Seed Saving with Anna Timmerman
JUL 10 10:00am Dutchtown

Eating the Rainbow with Healthy Ascension
JUL 7 5:30pm Gonzales
JUL 16 5:30pm Donaldsonville

What's in Your Backyard? with LA Wildlife & Fisheries
JUL 17 10:00am Gonzales

Coffee & Crafts: Mosaic Coasters
JUL 21 5:30pm Gonzales

Paint & Parlor: Bridgerton-Inspired Affair
JUL 23 6:00pm Dutchtown

The Old Farmer's Almanac with Dr. Joe Willis
JUL 24 10:00am St. Amant

= registration required

All events are subject to cancellation at any time. Follow our social media for the most up-to-date information regarding all of our summer events.

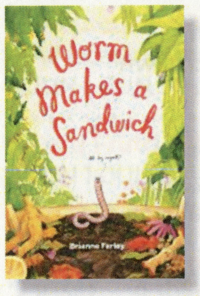
Shelf Analysis

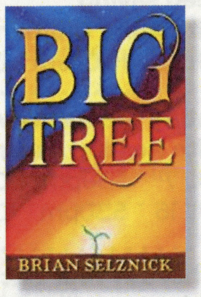
matching readers with books...and other stuff

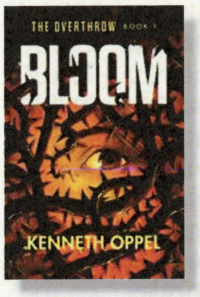
Plant a Seed, Read!

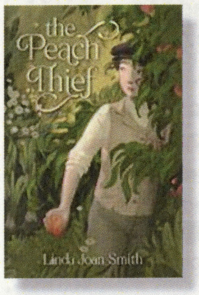
Just like a tiny seed can grow into something extraordinary, each story you read has the power to spark imagination, curiosity, and discovery. Dig into books and grow your love of reading all summer long!

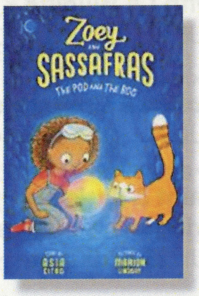
Curated by Katie Rivers

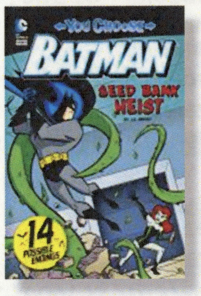


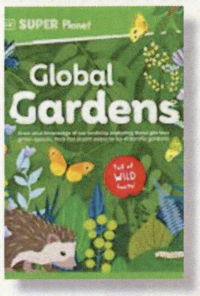


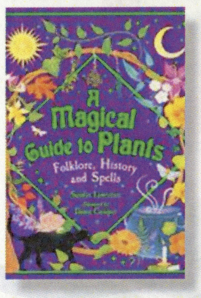


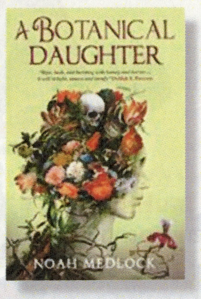


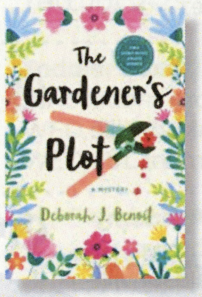


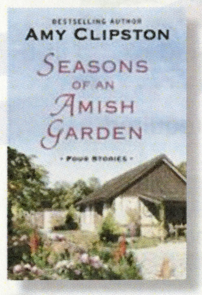


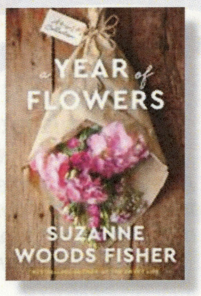


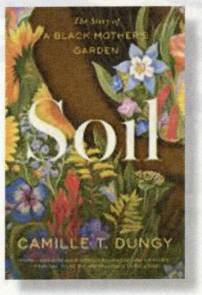




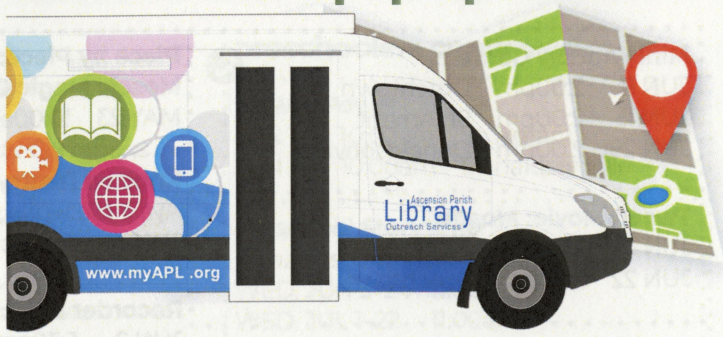








bookmobile & pop-up



MAY 1 & 15	9:00am–10:00am	Gill's Supermarket
MAY 1 & 15	3:30pm–4:30pm	Darrow Community Center
MAY 5 & 19	3:30pm–4:30pm	St. Amant Park
MAY 6	1:30pm–2:30pm	Francois Bend
MAY 6 & 20	3:30pm–4:30pm	Sorrento Community Center
MAY 7	10:00am–11:00am	Donaldsonville Senior Center
MAY 7 & 21	3:30pm–4:30pm	Oak Grove Community Center
MAY 8 & 22	1:30pm–2:30pm	Donaldsonville Senior Apartments
MAY 9	11:00am–1:00pm	Hope Saturdays Hangout: TFC Front Porch & Eat
MAY 12 & 26	9:00am–10:00am	St. Amant Park
MAY 12 & 26	2:00pm–3:00pm	New River United Methodist
MAY 12 & 26	3:30pm–4:30pm	Keystone of Galvez Park
MAY 13 & 27	3:00pm–4:00pm	The Church—Donaldsonville
MAY 14 & 28	3:30pm–4:30pm	Lemanville Park
MAY 22–24	TBA	59th Annual Jambalaya Festival
JUN 2	3:30pm–4:30pm	St. Amant Park
JUN 3	1:30pm–2:30pm	Francois Bend
JUN 3	3:30pm–4:30pm	Sorrento Community Center
JUN 4	10:00am–11:00am	Donaldsonville Senior Center

Schedule subject to change.

Scan the QR code for the most up-to-date schedule and details for homebound delivery or how to invite the library to an upcoming event.

families adults teens tweens kids ▶ = sign up required

MAY 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
4/26	4/27 ▶ One-on-One Beginner Computer Help 9:00am Gonzales	4/28 Play Dates 10:00am Galvez ▶ Gardening Q&A and Plant Swap with Ascension Master Gardeners 6:00pm Gonzales	4/29 Library Board Meeting 4:00pm Gonzales	4/30 Spring Into Reading Beanstack Challenge, Egg-cellent Candy Counting Game, & Earth Day Scavenger Hunt ends ▶ In the Kitchen: Knife Skills 101 9:00am St. Amant Play Dates 10:00am Dutchtown ▶ Mindful Chair Yoga for Cancer Survivors 11:30am Gonzales ▶ Dungeons & Dragons for Adults 6:00pm St. Amant Author Talks with Jason Reynolds 6:00pm Virtual Spanish Book Club 6:30pm Gonzales	1 Flowers Scavenger Hunt begins Flower Pinch Pot Packet Pickup All locations	2 ▶ Pastel Transfer with Art Academy 10:00am Galvez Winnie the Pooh Prom 10:00am Study Commons
3	4 Plant Talk: Repotting & Propagation of Houseplants Packet Pickup All locations	5 Semi-Annual Career & Resource Fair 10:00am Gonzales Play Dates 10:00am Galvez Author Talks with Radhi Devlukia-Shetty 1:00pm Virtual DIY Bag Charms 4:00pm Donaldsonville Dungeon Crawler Trivia 6:30pm St. Amant	6 Play Dates 10:00am St. Amant	7 Play Dates 10:00am Dutchtown Downsizing & Decluttering with AARP LA 10:00am Donaldsonville ▶ Mindful Chair Yoga for Cancer Survivors 11:30am Gonzales APL Book Clubs 1:30pm Donaldsonville; 6:30pm Gonzales, Dutchtown, Galvez, & St. Amant Author Talks with Marjan Kamali 6:00pm Virtual	8 ▶ One-on-One Beginner Computer Help 2:00pm Gonzales	9 ▶ In the Kitchen: Mother's Day Cupcake Bouquet 9:00am St. Amant ▶ Soft Start Saturdays: Yoga for Tweens 10:00am Dutchtown ▶ Teen Book Club 11:00am Galvez
10	11 Busy Builders 10:00am Galvez	12 Play Dates 10:00am Galvez Author Talks with Dr. Vivienne Ming 1:00pm Virtual Teen Advisory Board 6:00pm Gonzales	13 Ask-A-Lawyer 9:30am Gonzales Play-Doh Free Play 10:00am Gonzales Play Dates 10:00am St. Amant ▶ Cancer Conversations 11:30am Gonzales ▶ One-on-One Beginner Computer Help 5:00pm Gonzales	14 Play Dates 10:00am Dutchtown Getting to Know Your Smartphone with AARP LA 11:00am Gonzales ▶ Mindful Chair Yoga for Cancer Survivors 11:30am Gonzales	15 ▶ K-pop Dance Class with Brian Watson: "Your Idol" 10:00am Galvez ▶ Line Dance Class with Brian Watson 11:00am Galvez	16 ▶ Growing Up Boys 9:00am Gonzales Mario Galaxy Blast 10:00am St. Amant Amazing Axolotls with Nature on the Geaux 2:00pm Gonzales
17	18 ▶ Teacup Candles 10:00am Gonzales	19 Play Dates 10:00am Galvez Author Talks with Nir Eyal 1:00pm Virtual ▶ Decorative Neckties 6:00pm Donaldsonville	20 ▶ Launch & Thrive: Building & Financing Your Business with LSBDC 10:00am Galvez Play Dates 10:00am St. Amant	21 SRP 2026 begins! ▶ In the Kitchen: Chinese Take-Out at Home 9:00am St. Amant Play Dates 10:00am Dutchtown Kick-Off Party 10:00am Study Commons ▶ Mindful Chair Yoga for Cancer Survivors 11:30am Gonzales ▶ One-on-One Beginner Computer Help 2:00pm Gonzales	22	23 Kindness Rocks begins ▶ Piece by Piece: Mosaic Magic Garden Tiles 10:00am Dutchtown ▶ Tea & Crafts: Decorative Fans 10:00am Galvez
24	25 LIBRARY CLOSED	26 Play Dates 10:00am Galvez Kick-Off Party 10:00am St. Amant	27 Down on the Farm Sensory Play 10:00am Dutchtown Play Dates 10:00am St. Amant Kick-Off Party 2:00pm Gonzales Library Board Meeting 4:00pm Gonzales	28 Play Dates 10:00am Dutchtown Kick-Off Party 10:00am Galvez ▶ Mindful Chair Yoga for Cancer Survivors 11:30am Gonzales Spanish Book Club 6:30pm Gonzales	29 Summer Fruit Sponge Art 10:00am Gonzales Kick-Off Party 10:00am Donaldsonville	30 Kick-Off Party 10:00am Dutchtown Flowers Scavenger Hunt ends
31	6/1 Fabulous Fruits Scavenger Hunt & Tutti Frutti Tally Game begins Hairy Head Packet Pickup All locations Knotted Pantry Bag Packet Pickup All locations Flower Power 10:00am St. Amant Tiny Worlds: Fairy Garden Orbs 2:00pm Gonzales	6/2 Ballet Soiree with Baton Rouge Youth Ballet 9:30am Galvez; 11:30am Gonzales; 1:30pm St. Amant Babytime 10:00am Gonzales ▶ Recorder Basics with Erin Perdue 5:30pm Gonzales	6/3 Toddler Storytime 10:00am All locations except Study Commons Preschool Storytime 11:00am Gonzales, Dutchtown, & Galvez Author Talks with Mary Savig 1:00pm Virtual	6/4 Summer Fruit Sponge Art 10:00am Donaldsonville Babytime 10:00am Dutchtown ▶ Mindful Chair Yoga for Cancer Survivors 11:30am Gonzales APL Book Clubs 1:30pm Donaldsonville; 6:30pm Gonzales, Dutchtown, Galvez, & St. Amant Summer Film Series: *Dracula* 6:00pm Gonzales	6/5 Down on the Farm Sensory Play 10:00am Gonzales	6/6 ▶ First Saturdays with Gentle Chair Yoga 10:00am Galvez

Ascension Parish Library
Read • Learn • Create

708 South Irma Blvd., Gonzales, LA 70737

NON PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
GONZALES, LA
PERMIT # 32

Return Service Requested

locations & hours

myAPL.org

Gonzales
708 South Irma Blvd.
Gonzales, LA 70737
225-647-3955

MON–THU ..... 8:30am – 8:00pm
FRI & SAT ..... 8:30am – 5:30pm
SUN ..... 2:00pm – 6:00pm

Donaldsonville
500 Mississippi St.
Donaldsonville, LA 70346
225-473-8052

MON, WED, & FRI .... 8:30am – 5:30pm
TUE & THU ..... 8:30am – 8:00pm
SAT ..... 8:30am – 12:30pm
SUN ..... CLOSED

Dutchtown
13278 Highway 73
Geismar, LA 70734
225-673-8699

MON, WED, & FRI .... 8:30am – 5:30pm
TUE & THU ..... 8:30am – 8:00pm
SAT ..... 8:30am – 12:30pm
SUN ..... CLOSED

Galvez
40300 Highway 42
Prairieville, LA 70769
225-622-3339

MON, WED, & FRI .... 8:30am – 5:30pm
TUE & THU ..... 8:30am – 8:00pm
SAT ..... 8:30am – 12:30pm
SUN ..... CLOSED

St. Amant
12341 Highway 431
St. Amant, LA 70774
225-647-6008

MON, WED, & FRI .... 8:30am – 5:30pm
TUE & THU ..... 8:30am – 8:00pm
SAT ..... 8:30am – 12:30pm
SUN ..... CLOSED

Study Commons at the Wag Center
1221 Maginnis St.
Donaldsonville, LA 70346
225-257-1307

MON–FRI ..... 8:30am – 5:30pm
SAT ..... 10:00am – 2:00pm
SUN ..... CLOSED